

Andrew Jackson to Francis Preston Blair, February 24, 1844, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

class=MsoNormal>TO FRANCIS P. BLAIR.

February 24, 1844.

Confidential

My dear sir, I have in my letter of to day hinted my vews of the intended movement of my friends on the subject of having the fine convayed to me, by a resolution of Congress, and stated the old adage of letting "well enough alone"—the resolution will fail, and the opposition may make capital out of it, but as congress has voted the restoration of the fine, it is for them to judge of this matter. my wants are not to be taken into consideration at all upon this subject, this say to my friends.

Your liberality and friendship to me are without bounds, your proposition to me if the amount should be necessary to meet our wants, that you can advance it. From your and Mr. Rives liberality in extending the proportion of the loan of the principle that falls due this spring, had it not have been from the great loss of our cotton crop by the incessant rains we would have been able without the restoration of the fine to have met all 0290 266 our obligations, but my son has just returned from below. we, with others, have lost there about one half of the crop, and here about one fourth, and makes the sum voted by congress now necessary, to meet all our engagements. we have lost, in all about one hundred and twenty bales. the rise in price I hope will aid us for the deficiency in crop. I am thus frank with you, I conceal nothing from you, and as, I cannot expect to be much longer here, I am very desirous to leave A. Jackson so clear of debt, that the proceeds of

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his crops hereafter will meet all his necessities. I cannot think of trespassing any more upon yr. proffered liberality, unless on imperious necessity, which the posponement of the restoration of the fine might compel me, as the whiggs in Tennessee has got possession of the Banks, and from them the democracy during there raign cannot expect discounts. If my friends in congress think proper to do any act upon the subject that may pospone the receipt I would submit to any sacrafice of my property before I would gainsay their pleasure. one crop more, if seasons are propitious, and a good markett for cotton, will meet all engagements and free Andrew from all his pressure. These are the facts, I confidentially make known to you. write me on the receipt of this as it is important for us to know, whether, with honor, I can use the amount voted by congress. your sincere friend,